



KY PA Rx FACTS

Kentucky Physician Assistant Prescriptive Authority

- In the 2019 Legislative Session, KAPA is pursuing modified prescriptive authority to prescribe controlled substances.
- Physician Assistants are master's level trained medical providers with extensive graduate level training in pharmacology and pharmacotherapeutics.
- Forty-nine states allow physician assistants to write controlled substances prescriptions. **Kentucky is the only state that does not allow physician assistants to prescribe some level of controlled substances.**
- Physician assistants not only believe in collaboration but also practice interdisciplinary team-based care in collaboration with a physician through the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure (KBML).
- Under our proposal to prescribe controlled substances, a supervising physician and PA would be required to submit an application for approval through the KBML.
- Our proposal is aligned with Kentucky's Red Tape Reduction Initiative which is endorsed by both the Kentucky Hospital Association and the Kentucky Medical Association.
- PAs would also be required to register with the federal DEA and state KASPER system.
- Physician assistants not seeking controlled substance prescriptive privileges will not be required to submit an application.
- Furthermore, supervising physicians who do not want their physician assistant(s) to have prescriptive authority will not be required to submit or approve an application for PA prescriptive privileges.
- Modified prescriptive authority for physician assistants would create more professional parity to be competitive with other non-physician providers.
- Modified prescriptive authority is a reasonable means of providing PAs, in collaboration with their supervisory physicians, a way to maximize their effectiveness and quality of patient care.
- Modified prescriptive authority would provide more accurate and responsible tracking of prescriptions. These prescriptions are already being written and captured under the supervising physician's DEA, creating an inflated number of scheduled prescriptions for that physician.
- Please contact Bob Babbage at (859) 335-5869 or bob@babbagecofounder.com with any questions or concerns.

OTHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Nurse practitioners have been allowed to prescribe controlled substances since 2006.
- HB 1 of 2012 set forth new standards for prescribing controlled substances and created the KASPER management system.
- PAs are not seeking the ability to dispense controlled substances, only to prescribe.



KENTUCKY ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

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